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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/747,658 | 12/30/2003 | Mehdi Alasti | ALTEP034C | 1576 |
| 25920 | 7590 | 02/10/2006 | | EXAMINER |
| | | | | HYUN, SOON D |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | | 2661 |

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/747,658 | ALASTI ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Soon D. Hyun | 2661 | |

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address —
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 November 2005.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-21,23-25,27 and 34-49 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 1-21,23-25 and 27 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 34-36 and 38-47 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 37 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 34, 35, 36, 38-42 and 45-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by McKeown (U.S. Patent No. 5,500,858).

Regarding claim 34, McKeown discloses a method for arbitration for a switch (col. 5, lines 14-28 and col. 7, lines 16-42, FIG. 1 and 6);

When FIFO 24-1 of C-1 and FIFO 24-1 of C-2 on input side want to transmit a cell to C-1 on output side in a first time slot (col. 9, lines 1-16 and FIG. 9), and FIFO 24-2 of C-1 and FIFO 24-2 of C-2 on input side want to transmit a cell to C-2 on output side in the first time slot, GSU-1 and GSU-2 receive delivery requests from the C-1 and C-2 through Request Delivery Circuit (60), both of GSU-1 and GSU-2 may select C-2 (FIFO 24-1 of C-2 and FIFO 24-2 of C-2 are granted) and send a grant signal to ASU-2 through a Grant Delivery Circuit (64). The ASU-2 should select one of the FIFOs to accept.

Therefore, McKeown discloses the steps comprising:
determining, in a first time slot (col. 9, lines 1-16), a plurality of grants associated with a plurality arbiters (GSU-1 to GSU-N) associated with output ports (C-1 to C-N on output side of FIG. 1),

determining, in the first time slot (col. 9, lines 1-16 and step 100 of FIG. 9), a plurality of grants associated with a plurality of arbiters (ASU-1 and ASU-2) associated with input ports (C-1 and C-2 on input side of FIG. 1, see col. 7, lines 16-42).

Regarding claim 35, McKeown further discloses that the arbitration is performed during a second time slot for a next cell.

Regarding claim 36, refer to the discussion for claim 34, the GSUs and ASUs are used for arbitration selection based on a plurality of accepts associated with both input ports and output ports.

Regarding claim 38, refer to the discussion for claim 34, the GSUs arbitrates a first portion and the ASUs a second portion as recited in claim.

Regarding claim 39-42, refer to the discussion for claims 34 -36.

Regarding claims 45 and 46, refer to the discussion for claim 34-3. McKeown discloses an apparatus, comprising:

a plurality of first arbiters (GSU-1 and GSU-2); and
a plurality of second arbiters (ASU-1 and ASU-2), each associated with the plurality of first arbiters, each first arbiter of the first arbiters sending its own grant signal to a second arbiter of the plurality of second arbiters during a first time slot. However McKeown does not explicitly teach that each second arbiter sends its own grant signal to a first arbiter of the plurality of first arbiters during the first time slot. It is inherently required that the ASU-1 to send its own grant signal to a first arbiter of the plurality of to inform its decision.

Regarding claim 47, McKeown further discloses that each ASU has a matching combiner (col. 7, lines 36-43).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 34, 35, 36, 38-42, and 45-47 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-21, 23-25, and 27 are allowed.

5. Claim 37 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Soon D. Hyun whose telephone number is 571-272-3121. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chau T. Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-3126. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

y
S. Hyun
02/05/2006

Chau T. Nguyen

CHAU NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600